[1st February 1923

A.—The following extracts from the orders governing the subject will probably sufficiently explain the situation :—

"Leave under the Fundamental Rules cannot be claimed as of right. When the exigencies of the public service so require, discretion to refuse or revoke leave of any description is reserved to the authority empowered to grant it.

Casual leave is not leave under the Fundamental Rules, nor strictly speaking is it leave at all. It cannot be claimed nor is it intended to be given for the purpose of rest or change. It is only intended to provide for short periods of absence in emergencies."

Expenditure incurred by the Board of Revenue without Government sanction.

755 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the authority under which the Board of Revenue incurred an expenditure of Rs. 22,832-15-3 under establishment and contingencies for stamping weights and measures in 1921-22 without the sanction of the Government ?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the provisions in item 131 of Appendix F of the Appendices to the Madras Treasury Manual and paragraph 3 of Standing Order No. 204 in the Board's Standing Orders, Volume I.

Velugodu and Siddapuram projects.

756 *Q.*—Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the circumstances under which the Velugodu and Siddapuram projects were begun and what initial expenditure was incurred in investigating the possibilities of these projects ?

A.—The projects were investigated by the Superintending Engineer appointed on special duty in 1901 for collecting information regarding the protective irrigation schemes in this Presidency to assist in the inquiry of the Irrigation Commission. Figures showing the initial expenditure incurred on the investigation of these projects are not available as the work was carried on for a number of years.

Institution of pipe-system in Nandyal municipality.

757 *Q.*—Mr. K. Sarabha Reddi : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Nandyal municipality once forwarded a proposal to the Government for instituting pipe-system in Nandyal ; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on that proposal ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The Government have appointed in December 1922 a committee consisting of the Sanitary Engineer, the Director of Public Health and the Director of the King Institute to examine and